



Arkansas State Council Newsletter

# Knights of Columbus

NOVEMBER 2007

State Council Website: [www.arkofc.net](http://www.arkofc.net)



# Happy Thanksgiving!

## STATE DEPUTY

STEVE BELL

### PLANNING FOR SUCCESS



All Grand Knights and Council leaders should have been planning for their fraternal year. A favorite saying in business is "When we fail to plan, we plan to fail."

With this in mind, if a Grand Knights holds a meeting without first putting together an agenda, the meeting may not be organized and brief and not be successful. Such a meeting can turn of members from attending future meetings if a lot of time is spent on issues that should have been settled or accomplished before the meeting

Your Council also needs to have a plan. With your fellow council officers, take a calendar and begin to scheduling your council activities. Schedule activities that promote the church, community, council, family and youth programs as presented in the Surge with Service book used for ideas. Be sure to customize them to your council's activities toward your members' interest.

Always remember to include Pennies from Heaven, Special Olympics, and March for Life and local charities when you plan.

Also, plan several membership activities. Get the new members active. Include them in your Intellectual Disabilities Drive.

Remember all you have to do is ask a Catholic Man to join the Knights of Columbus. 125 years ago our orders founder Father Michael J. McGivney had a dream for the Knights of Columbus. Please recruit a member today.

If you need to contact me any time my email is [skb100@suddenlink.net](mailto:skb100@suddenlink.net) or my Cell phone is 870-926-7009

## STATE CHAIRMAN FATHER MCGIVNEY GUILD

MIKE J. MITCHELL

### A TIME FOR THANKSGIVING

As we continue on a sure path to the Thanksgiving season let us ask ourselves as Knights of Columbus an important question? What do we have to be



Thankful for? Well, the possible answers are endless after we start with God. One answer to this question for all Knights would be father McGivney. As I go through life and hear some people wonder about God because they can see him I never understand how they feel that way.

This reminds me of a similar story I heard having come from a ranching background. A rancher struggled with this same question and this went on for a period of time until he said one day he realized that the answer to seeing God was right in front of him. He finally realized that everything around him from the grass, mountains, sky, bluffs and the like were all what God had created and thus was God. Father McGivney had an understanding of God as well as mankind. Father McGivney was a servant of the Lord and also a creation of God just like the rest of us Knights. Lets all be thankful for our opportunity to serve God and also for Father McGivney in establishing the Knights of Columbus as a vehicle for us to use in helping others. Let's never forget Charity for all of Gods children. The Father McGivney Guild is here to help with the canonization of our founder. Please ask Father McGivney to intercede for your prayers and report any favors granted to the guild. Join the Guild to receive updates by using the attached for and mailing it or simply log on to [www.fathermcgivney.org](http://www.fathermcgivney.org).

**MEMBERSHIP**  
**ART BRANNEN**



The summer months are over and we should be back from vacations and preparing for the busiest time of year for members of the Knights of Columbus. Tootsie roll drives, Blitz drives, Silver Rose

tour, Razorback football, and World Series should be decided by the time this Newsletter gets out. We have relaxed and now ready to take on Thanksgiving and Christmas but we cannot relax because we have done very little to support the most vital job that has to be preformed between

now and June 2008. That is "MEMBERSHIP". Without it we cannot survive or even think about "STAR COUNCIL".

The next Council meeting you attend take a look around you and look at the average age of your brother Knights. Does it look like 50 - 65yrs of age? How long before your brother Knights will be burned out?

The last year was very good for the Arkansas "Knights of Columbus" having made the Honor Circle for membership recruiting and many of your Councils achieving STAR COUNCIL. Your Councils did an outstanding job achieving your goals. The time is fast leaving us to perform the same goals this year. Now is the time to buckle down and start recruiting.

Vivat Jesus

**IMMEDIATE STATE DEPUTY**  
**DAVID E. WITT**  
**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

As we prepare a traditional feast to celebrate with friends and family it would be of interest to look at the origins of Thanksgiving. Most people recognize the first Thanksgiving as taking place on an unremembered date, sometime if the autumn of 1621, when the Pilgrims held a three-day feast to celebrate the bountiful harvest they reaped following their fist winter in North America.



Later in our history George Washington proclaimed a Thanksgiving in December 1777 as a victory celebration honoring the defeat of the British at Saratoga. The Continental Congress proclaimed annual December Thanksgiving from 1777 to 1783 except in 1782.

George Washington again proclaimed Thanksgiving, now as President, in 1789 and 1795. President John Adams declared Thanksgiving in 1798 and 1799. President Madison set apart a day for thanksgiving at the close of the War of 1812. Madison declared the holiday twice in 1815, however none of these were celebrated in autumn.

President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day, to be celebrated on the final Thursday in November 1863. Since 1863, Thanksgiving has been observed annually in the United States.

In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared that Thanksgiving would be the next to last Thursday of November rather than the last. Roosevelt's declaration was not mandatory; twenty-three states went along with this recommendation, and twenty-two did not. The U.S. Congress split the difference and established that Thanksgiving would occur annually on the fourth Thursday of November, which is sometimes the last Thursday and sometimes the next to last.

Canadians trace the holiday to a feast by Martin Frobisher in New Foundland in 1578. The first official Canadian was celebrated on April 5, 1872 in gratitude for the Prince of Wales' recovery from a serious illness. The holiday was not officially recognized again till 1879, when parliament declared Thanksgiving to be an annual national secular holiday. The date was moved several times, finally being set on its current date (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October) in 1957. For much of the period before 1957 parliament proclaimed the date annually.

Thanksgiving had always been observed as an expression of gratitude to God. As we give thanks for our Blessing this Thanksgiving remember to offer the benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus to all eligible Catholic men. Imagine the good work we could be thankful for if we doubled our membership roles this holiday season.

## **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN DIRECTOR**

**OZRO N BARCLAY**

A number of requests have been received for money from the "Pennies from Heaven" Account and the same have been honored. It would be most helpful if future requests would include as much information as possible to the need of funds, if a juvenile is involved the name of the parents or guardian, to whom the check should be made payable and the correct address where the check should be sent (preferably the home address of the Grand Knight of the requesting Council).

We will make every endeavor to expedite your receipt of the requested check quickly. In many cases, the letters of authorization is already written by the time the approval of the request is received. These are then sent by e-mail to the respectful offices. Please advise me of any problems at [ob524@suddenlink.com](mailto:ob524@suddenlink.com)

## **PERSONS WITH DISABILITY DRIVE**

**MICHAEL CRIMMINS**

We are under way with our yearly drive for both OUR state and local disability needs. To the councils who have sent in a donation or have completed a program, THANKS.



To the councils who have a donation or program scheduled, THANKS.

To the remaining councils there is still time to participate in YOUR state and local persons with disability campaign. All proceeds received by December 2007 will count.

My council 07353 just completed our collections in heavy traffic areas of Mountain Home with support from the knights and their wife's. We are a family organization.

To date proceeds have ranged from \$50.00

to \$9,103 dollars. It all counts and goes to a great cause which needs our help.

Your district deputy and I remain ready to assist you if you have any questions and THANKS for all YOU do.

## **STATE COUNCIL FUND RAISING DIRECTOR**

**GERALD KRAWCZYNSKI**

### **14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 'JUST ASK CAMPAIGN'**



The 14th annual 'just ask' fund raising campaign request letters went out October 19 to all members in Arkansas. We anticipate a favorable response. We had great cooperation from Brother Knight Paul

Strack and Custom Printing of North Little Rock and, Brother Knight Charles Lock of the Conway post office who walked me through the mass mail out process. The success of this year's fund raising campaign now rests in the hearts of the Knights of Arkansas. As you interact with your brother Knights please help support this fund raising campaign.

## **STATE WARDEN**

**MIKE KIEFFER**

### **SILVER ROSE**



I would like to thank the District Deputies and Grand Knights that made the Silver Rose's travel through Arkansas possible. I would have said it was a great success if it had not been for the condition the rose was in when it

arrived in Arkansas. Then there was a lot of lag time in receiving the new materials after they were ordered to go along with the rose. On the brighter

side the rose was transferred to Oklahoma looking as good as new! I am sorry that the rose did not make it to all the councils that wanted it. Next year we will have it travel a different route through the state. The Silver Rose travels from Ontario, Canada through the United States on its way to Monterrey, Mexico. Through the Silver Rose Program the Knights show our support for the Church and its bishops and priests, as we pray for the continued strength of the church and vocations.

## **VOCATIONS CHAIRMAN**

**PETER McNULTY**

My Brother Knights – By now each parish should have received the New Posters of all our Seminarians. The Diocesan Vocations office has again produced a very



attractive informative poster. I am asking each council to assist in having these posters displayed so that all parishioners can see them. These posters can be very helpful in seeing how long the study period is for each seminarian to reach Ordination.

As the Holy Season approaches, each of us looks forward to the prayerful time of Advent and the celebration of Christ's birth. For most of us, it is a time of joy, family gatherings, and yes, the presents. May I suggest to each council and assembly to make a special effort to remember our seminarians, most of who will NOT be home for Christmas. A simple appropriate Christmas card signed by all the members can show the thoughtfulness and prayerfulness of our feelings for each of these young men. Each, through the Grace of God, will be a gifted man to bring us the Eucharist to help us on our road to eternal life.

Eternal life with God, the Father, Christ, our Savior, and The Holy Ghost, and all the Saints in Heaven is the goal of each of us.

Have a Blessed and thankful "Thanksgiving" for all our benefits, especially the gift of all our seminarians, and the personal gifts He has so generously given to each of us.

### **DISTRICT 03 REPORT**

**WILLIAM E. BERG JR.**

**DISTRICT DEPUTY**

During October the Star Council Award was presented to Council 01153. The McGivney Award was presented to Councils 03383 and 03998. The Silver Rose was picked up from District 11 on October 10th and made it's run through District 03 and was delivered to District 01 on October 12th.

### **DISTRICT 04 REPORT**

**JAMES T SMITH**

**DISTRICT DEPUTY**

El Dorado Council 05099 set up a Pro-Life Booth at the Union County Fair, hosted an Altar Servers Swim Party. They also held a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree in October for 6 new Knights from Magnolia and 1 new Knight from Texarkana.

Magnolia Council 12473 had 6 new Knights that went through the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree in October. This put them at 125% in Membership growth for the Year. They are on their way toward the Double Star Council again this year. Great Job! They also had a booth at the Magnolia County Fair. They sold Fried Twinkles and other items for a fund raising project. They are selling the Knight of Columbus Car Magnet (Keep Christ in Christmas) and have done quite well with this project.

Texarkana St. Edward's Council 02650 had taken a lesson from the Magnolia Council. After hearing about their success with the Car Magnet, Texarkana has order same and hope to have to be as successful. They have served the meals for the Parish Picnic, Women Retreat, Man Retreat

the last 3 Sunday of October. Texarkana added 1 new member in October. This candidate had applied early in the year but enter the Navy before they had a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. He was home on leave when he was told about the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree in El Dorado and wanted to go. Texarkana are taken order for a Plaque and Clock Plaque with a Picture of the Church or a Picture of the Main Altar from mid October till Thanksgiving as a fund raising.

### **DISTRICT 06 REPORT**

**WALLY SHELDON**

**DISTRICT DEPUTY**

Rogers Council 06834 hosted a joint Council Leadership Program at the Rogers Police Station on October 7th for the Grand Knights of District



06 and District 12. Immediate Past State Deputy David Witt conducted the training.

District 06 had a number of candidates for the 2nd and 3rd Degree held at Tontitown on October 14th.

Eureka Springs Council 06454 used non member families in Hindsville to collect for the Persons With Disabilities Drive.

Bella Vista Council 09514 once again surpassed their previous record by collecting \$9,770.74 for the Persons With Disabilities Drive. Hopefully this amount will once again earn for them the award for most money collected.

## REPORTS DUE

|   |                        |           |
|---|------------------------|-----------|
| 185 Report of Officers Chosen for Term                      | July 1 - June 30       | Jul 01    |
| 365 Service program Personnel Report for Term               | July 1 through June 30 | Aug 01    |
| TP-1 Select your Council's "Top Proposer"                   |                        | Aug 15    |
| 1295 Semi-annual Council Audit Report                       |                        | Aug 15    |
| 2629 Notice of Appointment of Round Table Coordinator       |                        | Sep 01    |
| CR Official Order Form for Recorded Columbus Day Program    |                        | Sep 15    |
| FT-KIT Free Throw Council Competition Order Kit             |                        | Nov 01    |
| FT-1 Free Throw Championship Participation Report           |                        | Jan 31    |
| 1728A Survey of Fraternal Activity Individual Member Report |                        | As needed |
| 1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Report             |                        | Jan 31    |
| 1295 Semi-annual Council Audit Report                       |                        | Feb 15    |
| 2630 Annual Report Knights d Columbus Round Table           |                        | Jun 30    |
| ABC/XXX RSVP Refund/Plaque Application                      |                        | Jun 30    |
| SP7 Columbian Award Application                             |                        | Jun 30    |

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